

**MULTI-FUNCTION SLOT CONFIGURATION FOR MOUNTING
DIFFERENTLY CONFIGURED SHELF ACCESSORIES TO A SHELF
ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A shelf includes a slot or opening configuration for use in mounting
5 different types of shelf accessories to the shelf. The slot or opening configuration
includes an enlarged primary or central section and a pair of secondary or end sections
extending in opposite directions from the primary section. The primary section of the
opening receives an axially-extending mounting member associated with a shelf
accessory, such as a fastener for mounting a bin divider or the mounting portion of a
10 rod-type shelf divider. The secondary sections of the opening have a width less than the
diameter of the fastener or mounting portion, so as to maintain the fastener or mounting
portion within the primary area of the opening. A shelf accessory with a tab-type
mounting arrangement, such as an upright shelf divider, is mounted to the shelf by
positioning the tabs within the aligned secondary sections of the opening, and the tabs
15 extend into and across the primary section. The slot or opening configuration is formed
in place of conventional separate elongated slots and circular openings, which creates
manufacturing and inventory efficiencies in reducing the overall numbers of different
shelves to be manufactured and carried in inventory.